

NOAA NWS ISSUES RED FLAG WARNING FOR L.A. COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA CITIES AND UNINCORPORATED AREA COMMUNITIES

**Red Flag Warning starts on Wednesday, May 1, 2013 (8 p.m.)
and will remain in effect till Friday, May 3, 2013 (5 p.m.)**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) Los Angeles/Oxnard office has issued a Red Flag Warning for the mountains, valleys and coastal areas of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties except the San Gabriel Valley in regards to forecasted gusty winds and low relative humidity. The Red Flag Warning will start at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 1, 2013 and remain in effect until 5 p.m. on Friday, May 3, 2013.

The NOAA NWS Red Flag Warning is issued for the Los Angeles County Operational Area cities and unincorporated area communities including Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles, Malibu, Santa Clarita Valley, San Fernando Valley, and Santa Monica Mountain areas.

Precautionary Preparedness Actions:

- A NOAA NWS Red Flag Warning means that critical fire weather conditions are either occurring now or will shortly. A combination of strong winds and low relative humidity in addition to warm temperatures may create extreme fire behavior.
- Los Angeles County Operational Area residents living in brush areas are reminded to take appropriate precautions. These precautions include the following:
 - ✓ Report any sign of smoke immediately to your local fire department by dialing 9-1-1 (If dialing 9-1-1 from your cellular phone, know your location).
 - ✓ Use extreme caution when operating spark or flame-producing machinery in brush areas.
 - ✓ If living in a hazardous grass or brush area, have a Wildfire Action Plan in place. Be familiar with the Los Angeles County Fire Department's READY! SET! GO! Program that provides important pre-planning and evacuation information to residents. Visit www.fire.lacounty.gov for more information.
 - ✓ Report any suspicious persons or vehicles to law enforcement.

For disaster/emergency preparedness information, please go to <http://lacoa.org> and <http://espfocus.org>.

Sources: NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard office – <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/lox/> and Los Angeles County Fire Department – www.fire.lacounty.gov.

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